

Message Text

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S E C R E T GENEVA 7122

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FOR SISCO AND ATHERTON FROM SAUNDERS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EG, IS

SUBJECT: U.S. ROLE IN EARLY WARNING SYSTEM

REF: A) GENEVA 6989; B) STATE 218785

1. FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF YOUR INSTRUCTIONS, I CIRCULATED TO EGYPTIANS, ISRAELIS, AND UN SUGGESTED POINTS ON US ROLE IN EARLY WARNING SYSTEM. IN DOING SO, I MADE CLEAR THAT PURPOSE OF THESE POINTS WAS TO PROVIDE SUBSTANTIVE POINTS ON US ROLE FOR DISCUSSION AND WAS NOT INTENDED TO PREJUDGE WHAT PARTIES THEMSELVES MIGHT DECIDE AS TO WHAT SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN PROTOCOL AS CONTRASTED TO WHAT SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT.

2. ISRAELIS, AS USUAL, HAVE PRODUCED COMPREHENSIVE WORKING PAPER ON ALL ASPECTS OF EARLY WARNING SYSTEM, INCORPORATING POINTS WHICH WE CIRCULATED VERBATIM. THIS IN ITSELF POSES NO PROBLEM BECAUSE EGYPTIANS KNOW THAT THEY, ISRAELIS, AND UN WERE GIVEN US PAPER AT SAME TIME AND ISRAELIS HAVE SIMPLY INCORPORATED IT IN THEIR DOCUMENT. HOWEVER, AS NOTED IN ONE OF MY EARLIER TELEGRAMS, EGYPTIANS ARE NOW SEEKING TO MINIMIZE MENTION OF US ROLE IN PROTOCOL, WHICH WILL BE PUBLISHED. I HAVE, THEREFORE, PROMISED MAGHDOUB THAT I WOULD REVIEW

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AND DISCUSS WITH WASHINGTON WHETHER IT IS NECESSARY TO

INCLUDE ALL OF OUR POINTS IN PROTOCOL ITSELF. MEAN-
WHILE, EGYPTIANS WILL GO AHEAD AND DISCUSS SUBSTANCE
IN WORKING GROUP WHILE RESERVING THEIR POSITION ON
WHAT POINTS ARE RECORDED IN WHAT DOCUMENT.

3. IN STUDYING HOW EGYPTIAN SENSITIVITIES CAN BE MET,
I HAVE REVIEWED OUR PAPER, DIVIDING POINTS INTO THREE
CATEGORIES: (A) THOSE ALREADY COVERED IN PROPOSAL NOT
TO BE REPEATED IN GENEVA PAPERS; (B) THOSE WHICH
ARE ESSENTIALLY ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN US AND EGYPT AND
US AND ISRAEL WHICH MIGHT BE INCLUDED IN CHAIRMAN'S
STATEMENT; AND (C) THOSE WHICH REALLY OUGHT TO GO IN
PROTOCOL. AS A RESULT OF THIS EXERCISE, I SUGGEST
THE DIVISION BELOW AND REQUEST YOUR COMMENTS.

4. MINIMUM POINT THAT SEEMS NECESSARY IN PROTOCOL IS
SUBSTANCE OF FOLLOWING: "THE UNEF WILL ESCORT EGYPTIAN
AND ISRAELI PERSONNEL TO THE PERIMETER OF EACH SUR-
VEILLANCE SITE WHERE US CIVILIAN PERSONNEL WILL VERIFY
THAT ACCESS IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE
AGREEMENT, THE ANNEX, AND THE PROTOCOL." SEEMS TO
ME SOMETHING LIKE THIS IS NECESSARY BECAUSE IT DIVIDES
RESPONSIBILITY BETWEEN UNEF AND US. SINCE BASIC
RESPONSIBILITIES OF US PERSONNEL AT WATCH STATIONS
AND SURVEILLANCE SITES ARE DESCRIBED IN PROPOSAL, I
DO NOT THINK WE NEED TO INSIST ON REPEATING THEM IN
PROTOCOL.

5. FOLLOWING COULD GO IN CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT ON
GROUNDS THAT THESE INVOLVE EITHER ELABORATION OF
AUTHORITY IN PROPOSAL (PARA. 5A) OR UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN US AND SEPARATE PARTIES:

A. US CIVILIAN PERSONNEL WILL ESTABLISH PROCEDURES
AND ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN THEIR OWN COMMUNICATIONS
SYSTEM TO OTHER US ELEMENTS, TO THE UNEF, AND TO THE
PARTIES AS WELL AS OPERATING OTHER EQUIPMENT NECESSARY
TO THEIR TASK. (COMMENT: GENERAL AUTHORITY IS PRO-
VIDED BY PARA. 5 OF PROPOSAL.)

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B. THEY WILL MAINTAIN REGULAR CONTACT WITH THE
OPERATIONAL PERSONNEL AT THE SITE AND WILL BE INFORMED
IN ADVANCE OF EXPECTED ENTRIES AND EXITS AT THE SITES.

C. OPERATIONAL PERSONNEL WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR
MAINTENANCE OF THE SITE.

D. THE US MAY SEND A TEAM TO SURVEY SITES AND TO

CONSULT WITH THE PARTIES ON NECESSARY SUPPORT
FACILITIES AS SOON AS THE PROTOCOL IS SIGNED.

E. IF EXPERIENCE SUGGESTS CHANGES IN LOCATIONS
OR PROCEDURES, THE UNITED STATES SHALL BE ABLE TO
WORK OUT CHANGES INVOLVING ITS ROLE IN THE EARLY
WARNING SYSTEM THROUGH CONSULTATION WITH THE PARTIES.
(COMMENT: THIS DROPS USE OF JOINT COMMISSION FOR
THIS PURPOSE ON GROUNDS THAT THIS IS MORE CONSISTENT
WITH PARA. 9 OF PROPOSAL. BEAR IN MIND, HOWEVER,
THAT THIS IS A PRO-EGYPTIAN MOVE IN CONTEXT OF ARGU-
MENT SHAPING UP OVER JOINT COMMISSION, WITH ISRAELIS
TRYING TO ESTABLISH PERMANENT COMMISSION STRUCTURE
WITH REGULAR MEETINGS AND EGYPTIANS TRYING TO MINIMIZE
APPEARANCE OF INSTITUTIONALIZING NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH
ISRAEL.)

6. LOCATIONS WILL APPEAR ON MAP AS ALREADY STATED IN
PROPOSAL.

7 ABOVE IS ADMITTEDLY EFFORT TO MEET EGYPTIAN SEN-
SITIVITIES IN WAY US COULD LIVE WITH. THERE IS
ARGUMENT FOR NOT GIVING IN SO QUICKLY IN LIGHT OF
ISRAELI WORRY THAT EGYPTIANS TRYING ESCAPE STRAIGHT-
FORWARD STATEMENT OF OBLIGATIONS UNDER AGREEMENT. IN
THIS CASE, HOWEVER, FIRST US INTEREST IS TO ASSURE
US HAS ADEQUATE UNDERSTANDING AND AUTHORITY ON WHICH
TO OPERATE. ABOVE IS EFFORT TO ACCOMPLISH THAT MUCH.
SECOND US INTEREST IS DO JOB HERE IN WAY THAT
STRENGTHENS THOSE CARRYING OUT AGREEMENT. SINCE MAIN
ISRAELI GAIN IS US ROLE ITSELF, SEEMS TO ME WE CAN
ACCOMMODATE EGYPTIAN SENSITIVITIES ON HOW US ROLE
RECORDED.

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8. I KNOW YOU ALL MUST BE EXTREMELY BUSY WITH CON-
GRESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS ON HAWKS AND EARLY WARNING
SYSTEM AND WITH PERES IN TOWN, BUT THIS SUBJECT IS
BEING DISCUSSED IN WORKING GROUP NOW. ANSWER BY
OPENING OF BUSINESS THURSDAY WOULD BE OPTIMAL.

9. DEPARTMENT PLEASE REPEAT TO CAIRO AND TEL AVIV. DALE

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